together and formulate proposals. They met together, but no proposals were forthcoming. Each individual economist, as was clear from his published articles and books, held emphatic opinions about what should be done; but these opinions, so fertile in royalties, easily marketed at so much a thousand words, clashed one with another. Meetings were contentious and unproductive. Far into the night the assembled economists disputed, unable to agree even about the terms they used in their discussions, a new variant of the Tower of Babel. The Economic Advisory Council still has some kind of shadowy existence; but whom it advises, and how, and when, is known only to those concerned in its activities.

The Government, like others before it, fell back on hoping for a trade revival. Alas, no revival came. Month by month the unemployment returns were more depressing. By April 1930 the highest figure for eight years was reached—1,650,000, despite Mr. Thomas's assurance at the beginning of the year that bottom had been touched. The phrase 'economic blizzard' came into vogue and comforted a little. Who were Cabinet Ministers, however well-intentioned and able, to stand up to blizzards ?

In addition to the blizzard, they had their supporters to contend with, a ravening pack. To some they threw Commissions of Enquiry—into the desirability of abolishing capital punishment, the licensing laws, parliamentary procedure; to others, promises—of a Trade Disputes Act Amendment Bill, an Eight-Hour Day Bill, a Factories Bill; to others, legislation—a Coal Mines Bill,

an Unemployment Insurance Bill.

Proposed legislation made slow progress. The Government were dependent in the House of Commons on Liberal support, and any little meat the Liberals left on the bone was devoured in the House of Lords. If Lord Passfield, the Colonial Secretary, disposed of some small difficulty which had arisen in East Africa, it was only to find waiting for him an earnest advocate of making a public declaration in favour of native rights in East Africa; if he deflected this assault, there was Dr. Chaim Weiz-